

Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

THEY'RE WONDERFUL

Flat Foot Floogies

Oh, yes, they're exceptions to all rules, but by and large you'll find the greatest majority of those staunch and steady people who serve the public in the culinary dome are cursed with the arch problems.

And small wonder when you take into consideration the number of hours these great, dedicated people spend on their poor old tired feet just to give you the service you feel you so rightly deserve. Also, you'll usually find them happy and smiling, no matter how those old arches ache.

This isn't confined to waitresses and waiters alone, either. Just take a look at bartenders some time when you're having a quickie at the bar. Many of them limp and hobble, but they still get around that plank in nothing flat (you'll excuse the expression) to see that you don't die of thirst. And they still have energy and heart enough to kid with you.

A few years ago it was an almost exclusive ailment of the boys in blue—"the cop on your beat"—but that was before they took them off their feet and put them on their nice soft comfortable front seats of the black-and-white units buzzing around town. But have you got a picture of these wonderful restaurant people scooting around behind the bar or among the tables on any kind of wheels? Ain't no way! And they're still a very great bunch of guys and gals! Let's treat them accordingly. "Tokes" help, y'know!

Say now, do you know Gordon Dilworth? Of course you do! At least you know who he is! Particularly if you're a TV fan at all.

With a multi-year background in show biz you should remember this fine character actor from both Broadway and motion pictures, however, more currently he's known as Mr. McGregor. You know, the gal that comes rushing into the supermarket and says, "Mr. McGregor, my coffee's so bad my husband hides it when company comes."

It's then that Mr. McGregor comes to the rescue and louts her on the Folger's mountain-grown coffee—"tastes fresh-perked 'cause it's fresh-perked!" And she goes merrily on her way, her marriage saved!

Well that's Mr. Gordon Dilworth, veteran actor and singer in the world of theatre. He and "Mrs. Lovely," Patsy, enjoyed a sumptuous repast at Al Pickin's L-Bow Room on Santa Monica Blvd. in the West L.A. area last Wednesday night.

A couple of interesting touch-ups occurred during the evening when Mr. D. seated at the bar awaiting his booth for dinner, got into a friendly discussion with head barman, Carroll Heiserman.

Carroll was extolling the virtues of a Martini while Gordon maintained the coffee bit was the more superior. And know how they wound things up? Why Carroll took on a cup of coffee and Gordon tilted the Martini glass! How else could it wind up!

Mr. and Mrs. Dilworth remained later to enjoy the fine piping of Eddie Freeman at the huge pianobar in the L-Bow Room's comfortable and friendly cocktail lounge.

Took a swing up moneysville way one day last week and Maynard Sloate says that beginning this Friday, the 24th, it'll be Erroll Garner in the million-dollar Blue Room of the Hotel Tropicana out on



PROUDLY PRESENTS . . . This is exactly what the above two gentlemen prescribe when they offer dancing, entertainment and cuisine at the Torrancia Ramada Inn in Torrance. Left to right they are Continental owner-host Peter Scheer and Executive Chef George Weitzel.

the Strip with an entirely new repertoire and an exciting new group for a three-week stand. Just thought you might like to know. One of the jazz greats appearing for this engagement with Garner is Ike Isaacs on bass. Still another and drums it's Jimmie Smith and with Jose Mangual on the bongos.

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TORRANCIA TRIO . . . As they appeared recently when the Torrancia Rotary Club held their Desert Safari at the Palm Springs Biltmore Hotel and Golf Course. Seated by the Olympic size pool, they are, left to right, Chamber President Larry Bowman, Executive Vice-President J. Walker Owens, and over the shoulder it's George W. Post, vice-president, United California Bank, Torrance. (Photo by Robert Levin)

In case you've missed Erroll lately, he was not AWOL! He's been on a European tour which included England, France, and Holland and fulfilling command performances. Tropicana's PR man extraordinaire, Bringham Townsend has arranged a small birthday party to commemorate Garner's 45 years with us (and with hopes he'll remain another 45 years!) on his closing night, June 13. It should be a gala affair so hope you're up there for it. It'll be Roger Williams next end when we're scheduled to visit in Palm Springs. But there's always plenty going on at the Palm Springs Biltmore Hotel where we'll be staying for a couple of days so we'll not worry about it. George and Fritzie Kuffner will surely have something planned for the weekend and they're certainly a pair of favorite friends in the desert! There was a time, however, when Pete and Billy Snyder had the fabulous Metropole Lounge, down there which was always good for a couple of hours of entertaining enjoyment but—alas—they've left there!

D'jevver see it to fail! You get a chance to take off for a weekend of relaxation and you discover the town you're planning on visiting is featuring none of your old friends and favorites at the moment? Well that's the situation with which we're faced next week—Billy's returned to his former love—The Dunes at Las Vegas—but Pete Snyder pooled with Wade Sunderland to open the delightful Seafarin' Inn at 8347 Lincoln Blvd. in Westchester where there's dining, dancing and entertainment nitely. That's just there

and when we're scheduled to a bit north of Manchester in Lincoln, y'know, on the left hand side of the street as you drive north.

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They've taken this room and built a most attractive food and fun house out of it and have staffed it with courteous, competent people. You know, members of that same group we started with at the beginning of this column—the wonderful "Flat-foot Floogies" and they're a fine bunch!

Now then, getting back to that action spot down in the desert—The Palm Springs Biltmore Hotel—there truly is always something doing at this delightful oasis. Why that beautiful Garden Room alone is well worth the trip, just to see it. And when you partake of the excellent cuisine here—well, it leaves nothing to be desired.

They boast an Olympic-size swimming pool, here where relaxation is a must. In fact, you relax in spite of yourself, irrespective of how much of a swinger you are. And the warm, friendly people you meet at the Biltmore Hotel, guests or employees, add just that much more to your stay.

As a classic example of these type people you meet here, the Torrancia Rotary Club held their Desert Safari here recently where they and their wives enjoyed the huge golf (Continued on Page C-10)

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